

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 235536

50

ORIGIN AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 IO-04 ISO-00 L-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /037 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DHSIMPSON:DH

APPROVED BY AF/S:WPO'NEILL

L/AF:CASCHMITZ (INFO)

L/HR:CRUNYON (INFO)

----- 007443

R 251832Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 235536

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: LT, PINS, ICJU

SUBJECT:JOEL CARLSON VS. LESOTHO

REF: A. MASERU'S TS, SEPT. 30, 1974 NOTAL; B. MASERU 1188

NOTAL

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. ON OCTOBER 22 DEPARTMENT OFFICER CONTACTED JOEL CARLSON, NOW NATIONAL COORDINATOR OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA, TO REQUEST COPY OF STATEMENT HE MADE IN LONDON IN AUGUST WHICH PROMPTED GOL PRESS RELEASE OF SEPTEMBER 23 RESPONDING TO HIS CHARGES OF POLICE BRUTALITY AND KILLINGS IN LESOTHO IN JANUARY DURING AND FOLLOWING ABORTIVE MINI-COUP. CARLSON
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 235536

STATED HE HAD OBTAINED INFORMATION FORMING BASIS HIS

CHARGES FROM BASOTHO REFUGEES IN EAST AFRICA WHO FEARED EXPULSION FROM THEIR COUNTRIES OF REFUGE IF THEY MADE CHARGES PUBLICLY. HE SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, JOAN LESTOR IN LONDON AND HAD LEFT DOCUMENTATION WITH AMNESTY IN LONDON TO BE PRESENTED TO HMG.

2. CARLSON ALSO SAID HE HAD SENT DOCUMENTATION OF HIS CHARGES TO INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS (ICJ) IN GENEVA WHO HAD REQUESTED MORE CONCRETE VERIFICATION OF HIS EARLIER CHARGES. PROF. BAREND VAN NIEKERK OF UNIVERSITY OF NATAL HAS WRITTEN TO CARLSON STATING HE FINDS CARLSON'S

CLAIMS HIGHLY INFLATED IN SOME RESPECTS.

3. FOR LONDON: EMBASSY REQUESTED OBTAIN COPY OF GUARDIAN ARTICLE AUGUST 17 WRITTEN BY MAGGIE GILLAN UNDER MARTIN WALKER BYLINE, IF AVAILABLE, STATING CARLSON'S CHARGES, TO BE POUCHED TO AF/S AND EMBASSY MASERU.

4. COMMENT: CARLSON ACKNOWLEDGES PRIVATELY THAT HIS CHARGES, WHICH INCLUDE CLAIM OF ONE THOUSAND KILLED OR WOUNDED, ARE INFLATED AND CANNOT BE SUBSTANTIATED. AT SAME TIME, FURTHER PUBLIC AIRING OF CHARGES IS IN INTERESTS OF ANTI-JONATHAN BASOTHO, SOME SOUTH AFRICANS (AND OTHERS, FOR VARYING REASONS), AND IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE FOR SOME TIME, PARTICULARLY WHILE TRIAL (REFTEL) CONTINUES. CARLSON INDICATED THAT THRUST OF AMNESTY'S REPRESENTATIONS TO HMG WOULD BE TO TRY TO BRING PRESSURE ON GOL THROUGH REDUCTION OF BRITISH AID TO LESOTHO. SINCE SOME OF PUBLIC AIRING MAY TAKE PLACE IN US, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT DEPARTMENT BE KEPT INFORMED. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE235536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DHSIMPSON:DH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740307-0259
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741015/aaaaamcm.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. MASERU'S TS, SEPT. 30, 1974 NOTAL, ; B. MASERU 1188
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <12 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OEL CARLSON VS. LESOTHO
TAGS: PINS, OTRA, LT, ICJ, AI, (CARLSON, JOEL)
To: MASERU LONDON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005